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Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Rights of the Child

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.16/Rev.1

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/63/16) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.16/Rev.1 on the rights of the child.

2. In the context of the Secretary-General's programme budget proposal for the biennium 2008-2009, the Advisory Committee noted that the proposed resources at the time reflected the provision for 2008 only and that, should an extension of the mandate of the Office of the Special Representative be proposed, the Secretary-General would prepare a statement of programme budget implications for submission to the General Assembly (see A/62/7, chap. II, sect. A, para. I.14).

3. The statement of the Secretary-General indicates that additional resources in the amount of $2,194,300 gross ($1,965,500 net) would be required in connection with the extension of the mandate of the Office of the Special Representative for 2009. The provision reflects the continuation of the current complement of eight staff, as well as a request for two new Professional posts, at the P-4 and P-3 levels, and non-post resources of $576,000, including travel costs.

4. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the addition of a new Programme Officer at the P-4 level would allow the team as a whole to take on more activities, including substantive activities with rights of the child partners. The new Programme Officer at the P-3 level would be responsible mostly for research, drafting and liaison activities. The Advisory Committee is of the view that the envisaged functions could be handled by two Programme Officers at the P-3 level.

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5. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.16/Rev.1, requirements of up to $2,194,300 gross ($1,965,500 net) relating to the terms of operative paragraphs 61 and 81 (b) of the draft resolution would be required for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2009, under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination. The extent to which the additional requirements would need additional appropriation for the biennium 2008-2009 is to be determined in the context of the consolidated statement of all statements of the programme budget implications and revised estimates for the biennium 2008-2009, which will be submitted to the General Assembly together with the proposals on utilization of the contingency fund for these additional requirements.**